

WHO HAS A DISABILITY IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD? AN OVERVIEW

The U.S. Census Bureau Census, 2000, estimated that there were 186,580 persons living in Montgomery County with a disability. Nationally, it is estimated people with disabilities make up 19.8% of the total population. According to a 2008 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, 12.1% of Americans self-reported as having a disability. These figures excluded individuals who reside in nursing homes or other institutions. The Census Bureau defines disability as a long-lasting sensory, physical, mental, or emotional condition or conditions that make it difficult for a person to do functional or participatory activities such as seeing, hearing, walking, climbing stairs, learning, remembering, concentrating, dressing, bathing, going outside the home, or working at a job.

Poverty, Unemployment & Disability Data Summary - Federal, State, Local

- In September 2009, the U.S. Department of Labor reported that the percentage of people with disabilities in the labor force was 22 compared with 70.5 for persons with no disability. The unemployment rate for those with disabilities was 16.2 percent, compared with 9.2 percent for persons with no disability, not seasonally adjusted.
- In October 2009, the Maryland Department of Disabilities reports that in Maryland approximately 850,000 individuals or 18% of the total population are classified as disabled, according to the 2000 Census. Unemployment for people with disabilities is approximately 60%.
- Among all adults age 21+, people with disabilities are almost 3 times more likely to be below the Federal Poverty Level (11.4% vs. 3.6%). In Montgomery County, 31% of working age adults (ages 18 - 54) with disabilities report that they are unemployed.

The discrepancy between data sources has to do with: a) definition of "unemployed" and b) age groups. Unemployed for Dept. of Labor statistics is defined in terms of those who are actively pursuing work. If someone is not attempting to work (i.e., voluntarily retired or infant/child), or has given up looking for work or are not legitimate candidates for work, then they do not show up in the percentages.

Social Security Recipients (SSI)

As of December, 2008, there are **12,283** people receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in Montgomery County.

People under 18	1,063
People 18 - 64	4,553
People 65 or older	6,667
Total	12,283
Social Security Insurance recipients also receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	3,062
Total Amount of Payments	\$5,781,000

Source: Social Security Administration, 2008

2008 Disability Characteristics - Montgomery County

Subject	Total
Population under 5 years	66,211
With a disability	109
Population 5 to 17 years	162,246
With a disability	5,997
With a hearing difficulty	1,057
With a vision difficulty	764
With a cognitive difficulty	4,505
With an ambulatory difficulty	779
With a self-care difficulty	1,588
Population 18 to 64 years	598,557
With a disability	30,135
With a hearing difficulty	7,420
With a vision difficulty	4,244
With a cognitive difficulty	11,941
With an ambulatory difficulty	12,659
With a self-care difficulty	5,746
With an independent living difficulty	9,766
Population 65 years and over	114,056
With a disability	32,389
With a hearing difficulty	13,041
With a vision difficulty	7,220
With a cognitive difficulty	6,958
With an ambulatory difficulty	19,753
With a self-care difficulty	7,920
With an independent living difficulty	16,230
Total Population With A Disability	68,630

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2008

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPECIAL EDUCATION

Number of Montgomery County Public School Students with Disabilities Ages 3 - 21 Receiving Special Education Services

As of Oct. 31st, 2008, there were **16,485** students with disabilities enrolled in Special Education. This population makes up **11.8%** of the County's total school enrollment of 139,282 students.

Disability Type	# of Students 2007	# of Students 2008	% Between 2007 and 2008
Autism	943	1,308	+ 39%
Deaf	119	110	- 7%
Deaf-Blind	1	2	+ 100%
Developmental Delay	800	1,197	+ 49%
Emotional Disturbance	1,034	635	- 38%
Hearing Impairment	121	152	+ 26%
Mental Retardation	647	649	+ 0.3%
Multiple Disabilities	445	220	- 51%
Orthopedic Impairment	78	62	- 20%
Other Health Impairment	2,092	2,593	+ 24%
Specific Learning Disability	6,094	5,615	- 8%
Speech and Language Impairment	5,213	3,838	- 26%
Traumatic Brain Injury	46	31	- 33%
Visual Impairment	67	73	+ 9%
Total	17,700	16,485	

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 3/2009

Montgomery County School Enrollment - Special Education Ages 3 to 21

Special Education enrollment has increased by 594 students over the last ten years.



Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 3/2009

Students with Disabilities By Race Compared with General Education Students by Race - Ages 3 to 21

SWD = Students with Disabilities / GE = General Education

	Grand Total	American Indian/ Alaskan Native		Asian/Pacific Islander		African American		White		Hispanic	
		Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
SWD	16,485	48	0.3%	1,293	7.8%	4,720	28.6%	6,494	39.4%	3,930	23.8%
GE	139,282	401	0.3%	21,549	15.5%	32,172	23.1%	54,413	39.1%	30,747	22.1%

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 3/2009